

Court of Appeals Judge Latrice Westbrook sworn in January 3

January 3, 2017

New Court of Appeals Judge Latrice A. Westbrook took the oath of office today in Jackson.

“I look forward to working with each of you on the Court of Appeals and the appellate system to make everything better for all Mississippians,” Judge Westbrook told fellow judges, staff and friends.

“Welcome on board,” Chief Judge Joseph Lee said after administering the oath to Judge Westbrook.

Judge Westbrook will hold a formal investiture ceremony Feb. 1 at 3 p.m. at the Gartin Justice Building in Jackson.

Judge Westbrook, 44, of Lexington, was elected Nov. 8 to Court of Appeals District 2, Position 2.

Judge Westbrook was born in Memphis. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn. She earned a law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in 1997.

She became an assistant district attorney in the Second Circuit District of Harrison, Hancock and Stone counties in October 1997. She was the first African American woman assistant district attorney in the Second Circuit District. She joined the Jackson law firm of Byrd and Associates in 2000, then opened her own law practice in 2001. She served as prosecutor for the city of Durant and as city attorney for the town of Isola. For almost 10 years, she served as a public defender in Holmes County. In 2013, she became interim communications director for Jackson Mayor Chokwe Lumumba, then joined the Jackson City Attorney’s office as legal counsel for the Jackson Police Department. She returned to private law practice in 2014. She served as Municipal Judge for the city of Lexington before she was elected to the Court of Appeals.

